



Attorney Docket No.49386-CIP (71995)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS	Allen Carl, et al.	EXAMINER:	Priddy, Michael B.
U.S.S.N.:	10/019,265	GROUP:	3732
FILED:	November 13, 2001	Conf. No.	1326
FOR:	SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SPINAL FIXATION		

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
SEP 29 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER-H3700

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted as "Post Office to Addressee" (by Express Mail Label No. EV 437 816 637 US) at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 24, 2004.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Safiya Jarvis

**EXAMINING GROUP 3732**  
**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. 116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Sir:

The following is in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 24, 2004, in the above referenced application.

09/28/2004 HALI11 00000009 10019265

01 FC:2201

86.00 OP

Applicant: Allen Carl, et al.  
U.S.S.N. : 10/019,265  
Response to Final Office Action  
Page 2 of 26

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 19 of this paper.